

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



October 2019

www.cnps-sequoia.org

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Plant Sale & Call for Volunteers |
| 2 | Post-burn Assessment |
| 4 | Classes and Events |
| 5 | Membership and Officers |
| 6 | In the Know |

PLANT SALE & CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Free Admission!

Clovis Botanical Garden
945 N. Clovis Avenue, Clovis
Just north of Alluvial at Dry Creek Park

2019 Water-wise
Plant Sale

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Friday October 18 1 pm - 4 pm Plant Sale only</p> |  <small>Purple Sage (Salvia leucophylla)</small> | <p>Saturday October 19 9 am - 1 pm Plant Sale + Exhibitors</p> |
|--|--|--|

Enjoy a stroll through the Garden and choose from California native plants and water-wise plants from other places.

Co-sponsored by
Clovis Botanical Garden and
Sequoia Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

10% plant purchase discount for CBG & CNPS members




Volunteers are needed on Thursday, October 17; Friday, October 18; and Saturday, October 19. Please take a moment to look at the details below. Perhaps you will have a bit of time to help out at the plant sale. If you are willing to volunteer, please email Thelma Valdez at yucca37tv@yahoo.com with the dates and hours you can help. We would sure appreciate the help, even if it is just a couple of hours.

| Date | Hours | Volunteer Tasks |
|------------|------------------|--|
| Thu Oct 17 | 12pm to sunset | unload plants, insert prices into each pot, place plants in designated locations. |
| Fri Oct 18 | early AM to 12pm | set up canopies over plants, set up twine "fencing" and hang plant description sheets and photographs, finish pricing plants if not finished on Thursday |
| Fri Oct 18 | 1pm to 4 pm | help customers with plant selection (best if you have some experience with native plants in your own garden), staff the membership and information table-this may end up being a table near the plants |
| Sat Oct 19 | 9am to 1pm | help customers with plant selection (best if you have some experience with native plants in your own garden), staff the membership and information table located outside the CBG entrance gates |
| Sat Oct 19 | 1pm to 3 pm | load unsold plants into Intermountain Nursery's truck, take down plant descriptions and photos and disassemble twine "fencing", collapse canopies, tables, general cleanup |

POST-BURN ASSESSMENT

--Gene Richards

China Creek Park volunteer since 2012

To add to Warren's fine report in the last newsletter on the post-burn activities since CAL FIRE finished their training exercises in June, Warren and I walked the south fields on August 21 to see what they looked like, make an evaluation, and think about the future. We had asked CAL FIRE to leave some of



Facing southeast from asphalt road

Photos by Gene Richards

their firebreaks, one each in mid-field on each side of the asphalt road (of 12 they'd made), so we could compare the covered and remaining firebreak cuts, but that will be ongoing through the fall, winter, and next spring. It's possible we can get CAL FIRE to make fewer cuts in the fields.

Again, I'd like to emphasize the experimental nature of this activity at *our* park (we like to think); we would like to learn as much as possible each year and carry that forward into future maintenance.

Related to this, we've said a few times that we're not in love with using cattle grazing as a maintenance tool as they

can cause more harm than good: their guts don't fully kill weed seeds so they can spread them (and nourish them) and they are not discriminate about what they eat, munching natives down to the ground as well as invasive grasses. And, it's a lot of work to cage and later uncage Valley oak seedlings — fun but we could be doing other things.

On this note, we're looking to either plant or cage other existing native tree species that are found at the park or could be found there. This might include sycamore, ash, and cottonwood. Any ideas on this from our audience? Shrub and herbaceous species seem to be proliferating and spreading on their own, like elderberry, anemopsis, creeping wild rye, doveweed, etc.

This leads me to another CAL FIRE activity, burning back from the perimeter road toward the tree-line, which they did just behind the kiosk all the way down and along the wooded area (sanctuary) to the creek. There was quite a good stand of doveweed near the kiosk, but it looks gone except what the fire missed along the dirt road. It is a prolific seeder so we hope it returns — it is a real survivor and loves very dry conditions in the hot sun. We'll see.

A lot of sections did not burn due to the ground and plants being too wet. Also, many mature thistles did not look as though they were dead and, in fact, their seedpods were still viable. Regarding this, I have asked the CAL FIRE battalion chief in charge of training, Michael Bowman, to find a way to run their training burns during drier times, likely next spring, and to spot burn small areas we specify. This might include areas under some large oaks where we've found bedstraw weed and thistles or anywhere we want them to be careful of existing natives but would like help in wiping out the invasives.

POST-BURN ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Mr. Bowman said it was his intention to work closely with us in this, as well as run successful training for firefighting crews from all over Fresno County. They would normally make 'dry runs' in their training, only practice running out hoses in locations where there is no actual fire, so having live fire is a real benefit for them.



We're also concerned about the burning affecting the wildlife, especially the raptors that nest in the wooded areas, as Laura has pointed out. On the one hand, the fire has forced rodents to scurry out from their burrows, which could present hawks with some food source. But the smoke and disturbance might drive them away from nesting at all.

Concerning the fig population, which is large, weedy, and spread by birds eating the inedible (to humans) fruit, Laura and John began the process of mapping them (with a Global Positioning System (GPS)), mainly in the north field, but this needs to

continue into the south as well. The one large fig — located right next to the road in the southwest field — that was cut down by CAL FIRE as part of their tool training has already begun to put out many new shoots and suckers. It and all the others will need to be cut again and poisoned immediately to make sure the roots are dead. Hoping this happens in the fall, which is now - as I write this. After we eliminate most of the ailanthus in the north, this is the next large task.



Let's remember, fire is a natural part of this ecosystem, humans not so much, at least in modern form. Let's tread lightly.

Which brings me to the need for more volunteers to do all the chores we'd like to accomplish, including a new trail placement in the woods and trying new methods of ridding the park of non-natives, like mowing. Good, clean fun...you in?

On left edge of photo is a patch of fig trees in the north field.

The next work party will be on October 26, 2019. Mark your calendars; hope to see you there!

Upcoming Grants, Events, and Classes

California Lichen Society Grants Program Submissions by November 1, 2019

The California Lichen Society (CALs) offers small grants to support research pertaining to the lichens of California.

- No geographical constraints are placed on grantees or their associated institutions, but grantees must be members in good standing of CALs.
- CALs grants are available to individuals only and will not be issued to institutions.

Information:
<http://www.californialichens.org/resources/cals-grants-program/>

•October 16, Fire-Injured Trees: Predicting Mortality and Assessing Hazard Wednesday, 9:00pm – 5:00pm

Location: Chico State University Campus, Room 129 Holt Hall

- Will present information to aid in the assessment of the health of trees after a fire, particularly native conifers and oaks.
- Will discuss types of fire-related injuries, how to determine if a tree will survive fire related injuries, insect activity post-fire, post-fire decay, and potential hazards of decay.
- A field visit within the Camp Fire burn scar will occur.

Cost: \$110 personal/\$130 business/ \$100 members/\$50 student

Purchase tickets at:
<http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/eventsviewcalendar/fire-injured-trees>

•October 26, Creating Inks and Watercolors from Locally Sourced Plants and Minerals Saturday, 10:00am – 4:00pm

Location: Chico State University Campus, Room 125 Holt Hall

- Learn about the origins of color, work with select rock and plant samples, and take a local walk to learn about different species that can create colors.
- Take home an instructional pamphlet on how to reproduce the process.
- Class size is limited to 14 people.

Creating Inks and Watercolors (continued)

Cost: \$50 member/\$60 non-member

Information:
<http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/eventsviewcalendar/2019/inks-and-watercolors>

•October 26, Trees for Small Spaces Saturday, 9:30am – 11:30am.

Location: Betty Rodriguez library,
3040 N. Cedar Avenue, Fresno, CA
93703



- Learn choices for trees that will provide beauty, shade, a vertical element, and a focal point to small spaces such as a narrow side yard, small patio area, or tiny yard.

Cost: Free

Information:
https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/Gardening_Classes/

•October 26, River West Nature Walk Saturday, 9:00am – 11:30am



Meet Location: River Center,
11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno,
CA 93730

- Explore the Van Buren property at Madera River West.
- You'll see wildlife and bird rookeries and you'll learn about the local environment on the approximately 1.5 hour hike (not including travel time).
- Will be carpooling to Van Buren from the River Center.
- Take sunscreen, binoculars, and water.

Cost: Free

Information:
<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07egn6rity2811bb1a&llr=ed6p8sbab>

•November 2, Gardening with Herbs Saturday, 9:30am – 11:00am

Location: Garden of the Sun,
1750 N Winery Ave,
Fresno, CA 93703



- Learn about the pleasures and benefits of adding herbs to your landscape.

Cost: Free

Information:
https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/Gardening_Classes/

**SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS*
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Membership

Thanks to new and renewing members.

If you require corrections or additions to your membership information, contact Cherith Merson at echerith@gmail.com.

The Sequoia Chapter serves Fresno, Madera, and Kings counties.

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12 per year and all gifts to CNPS as tax deductible. Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, renew automatically year after year. It is quick, easy, and convenient, and reduces renewal-mailing costs. Visit www.cnps.org and click on the JOIN button.

Next Newsletter: November 2019

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, October 25, 2019.**



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JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY RENEW

Membership includes the quarterly CNPS journal, *Fremontia*; the quarterly *Bulletin* which gives statewide news and announcements of Society activities and conservation issues; and our chapter newsletter, *Carpenteria*.

I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

- Student, Fixed Income \$25
- Individual \$50
- Plant Lover \$120
- Supporter \$500
- Patron \$1,000
- Benefactor \$2,500
- Steward \$5,000
- Guardian \$10,000

Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

- New Member Renewing Member

**California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113**

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education, science, and conservation.

CARPENTERIA

October 2019

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

c/o Jeanne Larson ♦ 3457 Redlands ♦ Fresno, CA 93726

IN THE KNOW

New to the *Jepson eFlora*: Pop-up Definitions & Images

-Summary of article in *Jepson Globe* by
Jason Alexander-

Jepson eFlora is an online manual of the native and naturalized vascular plants of California. It contains taxonomic treatments, distribution maps, illustrations, photographs, and identification keys.

In the past year, the *Jepson eFlora* has restored popup definitions to the *Jepson eFlora* keys. These popup definitions can be seen online by hovering your cursor over the word that is underlined. Some popups now include digital scans from the illustrated glossary plates in the printed book (TJM2); more popup images will be added in a future update of *eFlora*. Also in the future, popup text will be added to the descriptions on each species page.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/eflora_keys.php?key=8866. The page title is "Key to Gilia". Below the title, there is a link "View taxon page for Gilia" and a note "(For a list of species in Gilia, use the above link.)". A note states "Jepson Manual glossary definitions can be seen by moving your cursor over words underlined with dots." A list of key steps is shown, with the word "tomentose" underlined in step 4. A popup window is open over the word "tomentose", displaying a digital scan of a glossary plate showing a plant part covered in dense, interwoven, matted hairs. The popup text reads: "tomentose Covered with densely interwoven, generally matted hairs." The list of key steps continues:

1. Flowers generally in heads or clusters of > 8
2. Heads hemispheric; corolla throat > tube; stamens exceeded by to reaching corolla lobes *G. ac*
- 2' Heads spheric; corolla throat <= tube; stamens reaching or exceeding corolla lobes *G. capitata*
3. Corolla 5–8 mm (7–11 in subsp. *tomentosa*), lobes linear or narrowly oblong ; calyx lobes acute ,
4. Base of heads tomentose
5. Corolla pale blue-violet to
- 5' Corolla bright blue-violet
- 4' Base of heads glabrous, g
6. Calyx membranes white;
- 6' Calyx membranes blue-v
- 3' Corolla 7–13 mm, lobes obl
7. Base of heads glabrous, s
- 7' Base of heads densely ton
8. Corolla bright blue-violet
- 8' Corolla pale blue-violet; plant lacking skunk-like odor

Example of popup definition—describing “tomentose”—in *Jepson eFlora*

To access the *eFlora* website go to <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/>.